

In the Claims

Claims 1-55 (cancelled).

Claim 56. (Currently amended) A method of using a modular control apparatus comprising the steps of:

providing a modular control apparatus having a valve in fluid communication with [[the]] a tool, wherein said apparatus is configured to shut off air flow to [[a]] the tool after a selected time that torque is being applied by the tool;

aligning the modular control apparatus to [[a]] the tool;

attaching the modular control apparatus to the tool;

adjusting the flow restriction with rate of the valve to control the output of the modular control apparatus; and

applying the tool to a workpiece.

Claim 57. (Original) The method of claim 56 further comprising the steps of:

detaching the modular apparatus from the tool;

aligning the modular control apparatus to a second tool;

attaching the modular control apparatus to the second tool;

adjusting the output of the modular control apparatus; and

applying the second tool to a workpiece.

Claim 58. (Original) The method of claim 57 wherein the step of providing a modular control apparatus comprises the step of providing a fluidic modular control apparatus.

Claim 59. (Previously presented) The method of claim 58 wherein the step of providing a fluidic modular control apparatus comprises the step of providing an air modular control apparatus.

Claim 60. (Currently amended) A method of using a pneumatic modular control apparatus comprising the steps of:

attaching the pneumatic modular control apparatus to a pneumatic tool, wherein said modular apparatus includes a device having a valve in fluid communication with the tool, wherein the device is configured to shut off air flow to a motor of the tool in response to a selected time that torque has been applied by the tool has been reached;

connecting a compressed-air supply channel to an input port of the pneumatic modular control apparatus;

channeling a compressed-air discharge from a discharge port of the pneumatic modular control apparatus to the inlet of a pneumatic motor of the pneumatic tool;

adjusting the flow rate of a valve by setting a valve position to control the pneumatic modular control apparatus; and

applying the pneumatic tool to the workpiece.

Claim 61. (Original) The method of claim 60, further comprising the step, prior to applying the tool to the workpiece, of attaching a workpiece adapter at least one of directly and indirectly to a drive shaft of the motor of the tool.

Claim 62. (Withdrawn) A method of making a modular control apparatus comprising the steps

of:

forming a first sub-block to create a reservoir, a valve chamber, and a plurality of channels;

forming a second sub-block to create a flow channel having a valve seat for a needle valve, the channel sized and positioned to fluidically connect, when mated with the first sub-block, the reservoir to the channel in the first block that receives the input of the compressible fluid;

forming a valve stem channel in the second sub-block, the valve stem channel suitable to receive the stem of a needle valve, the channel sized and positioned to align the needle with a valve seat;

forming a valve body;

forming a needle valve body;

installing the valve body into the valve chamber;

installing the needle valve in the needle valve seat of the second sub-block;

mating and releasably fastening the first and second sub-blocks together;

forming alignment features; and

at least one of forming and installing at least one attachment mechanism.

Claim 63. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 62 wherein installing the valve body comprises:

installing a seal;

inserting the valve body;

installing the bias mechanism; and

installing an o-ring bumper.

Claim 64. (Withdrawn) A method of making a pneumatic power impact tool adapted to receive a pneumatic modular control apparatus, the apparatus having an input port and a discharge port, the method comprising:

providing a pneumatic power impact tool having a handle, a trigger valve for controlling the input supply of compressed air, and an air motor having an inlet for compressed air;

forming a channel from the output of the trigger valve to a trigger valve outlet port configured to align and connect with the input port of the pneumatic modular control apparatus;

forming a channel from the inlet of the air motor to an air motor supply port configured to align and connect with the discharge port of the pneumatic modular control apparatus; and

forming a housing, said housing covering the air motor, channels, and the trigger valve, said housing also comprising the air motor supply port, the trigger valve outlet port, alignment mechanisms, and connection mechanisms.

Claims 65-66 (Cancelled)

Claim 67. (Withdrawn) A method of making an apparatus for a power impact tool comprising:

providing an air motor within a housing, the housing and air motor adapted to receive a modular control apparatus; and

attaching a modular control apparatus.

Claims 68-69. (Cancelled)

Claim 70. (Currently amended) A method of using a modular control apparatus comprising the steps of:

providing a modular control apparatus having an alignment mechanism for aligning the modular control apparatus with [[the]] a tool, wherein said apparatus is configured to shut off air flow to [[a]] the tool after a selected time that torque is being applied by the tool controlled by a valve in fluid communication with the tool;

attaching the modular control apparatus to the tool;

varying ~~adjusting the flow rate~~ restriction of the valve to control the output of the modular control apparatus; and

applying the tool to a workpiece.

Claim 71. (Previously presented) The method of claim 70 further comprising the step of:

providing an adapter; and

attaching the adapter to the tool.

Claim 72. (Currently amended) The method of claim 70 further comprising the steps of:

detaching the modular apparatus from the tool;

attaching the modular control apparatus to [[the]] a second tool;

adjusting the output of the modular control apparatus; and

applying the second tool to a workpiece.

Claim 73. (Previously presented) The method of claim 72 wherein the step of providing a modular control apparatus comprises the step of providing a fluidic modular control apparatus.